WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Replacement of A-300 and Boeing 737 aircraft of Indian Airlines

*2904. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to replace A-300 and Boeing 737 aircraft of Indian Airlines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) A Committee was constituted in February, 1995 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay Kelkar, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to examine the reasons for losses in Indian Airlines and develop strategies for turning around of Indian Airlines in the context of the market environment. The Committee observed that all A-300 and Boeing 737 aircraft in the fleet of Indian Airlines/ Alliance Air should be phased out by the year 2003. Indian Airlines has, accordingly, constituted an in-house committee to carry out a techno-economic study of suitable aircraft for relacement of A-300 and Boeing 737 fleet.

Utilisation of Sardar Vallabhbhai Airport

2905. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have planned to fully utilise the Sardar Vallabhbhai Airport;

(b) whether Department is going to divert additional flights in this Airport;

(c) whether it is a fact that Ahmedabad—Nairobi—Mombasa-—Johanessberg flight service is to be started; if so, by when; and

(d) whether it is a fact that British Airways and some other airlines are inclined to extend some of their flights to Ahmedabad; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) It is upto the airlines to operate services to/from an airport depending on the traffic demand and the commercial viability of the operations.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) At present, Air India has no plan to introduce direct flights on sector Ahmedabad—Nairobi Mombasa Johanessberg. However, the airline provides a connection from Ahmedabad over Mumbai to Nairobi and Dar-es-Salam.

(d) No such proposal has been received from any airline including British Airways.

मध्य प्रदेश में बड़े शहरों के लिये विमान सेवा

2906. श्री राधाकिशन मालवीय:
श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा:

क्या नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश से हैदराबाद, मद्रास, त्रिवेन्द्रम, बंगलौर, अहमदाबाद, कलकत्ता जाने हेतु कोई सीधी विमान सेवा उपलब्ध है;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो यह सेवा कब तक उपलब्ध करा दी जायेगी, और

(ग) क्या मध्य प्रदेश से अंर्तराष्ट्रीय विमान सेवा शुरू करने का कोई प्रावधान किया गया है?

नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री अनंत कुमार): (क) जी, नहीं। तथापि, मध्य प्रदेश में अवस्थित स्थानों से यात्रा करने वाले यात्री हैदराबाद, चेन्नई, तिरूवंनतपुरम, बंगलौर, अहमदाबाद तथा कलकत्ता के लिए मुम्बई/दिल्ली से विमान सेवा लाभ उठा सकते हैं।

(ख) विमानकंपनियां मार्ग आवंटन मार्गदर्शी सिद्धांतों के अनुपालन के अध्यधीन यातायात मांग तथा वाणिज्यिक व्यवहार्यता पर निर्भर करते हुए विशिष्ट स्थानों के लिए विमान सेवाएं मुहैया करती हैं।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

Helicopter service to Vaishnodevi

2907. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce helicopter service to Vaishnodevi in Jammu and kashmir;

(b) whether it will be from Jammu or Katra;

(c) by when this service is likely to be introduced; and

(d) whether such services are also proposed in other places, if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) proposes to introduce helicopter service to Vaishnodevi in Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) There will be service to Vaishnodevi both from Jammu and Katra.

(c) The present helipad at Katra is under litigation, PHHL has approached High Court of Jammu and Kashmir for permission of its use. Meanwhile, alternate sites at Katra are also being surveyed. PHHL will start the services as soon as a helipad becomes available at Katra.

(d) A preliminary survey has been carried out for introduction of helicopeter services to Kedarnath/Badrinath.

Installaction of Airborne Collision Avoidance System

2908. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made Airborne Collision Avoidance System mandatory to be installed at all airports;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed system;

(c) whether Government have directed private airlines to install the system in their aircrafts within a stipulated period; and

(d) if so, the cost of the system and to what extent it will provide safety to aircraft?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) All aeroplanes with passenger seating capacity of more than 30 or a payload caacity of more than 3 tonnes, are required to install Airborne Collision Avoidance System (ACAS)-II on or before 31st December, 1998. Aersoplanes having passenger capacity of 10 to 30 or pay-load capacity of 1 to 3 tonnes are reqired to install ACAS-I on or before 31st December, 2003.

(d) The cost of the system varies with the vendor/manufacturer and the quantitites order. The approximate installation cost of ACAS-II would be US$ 60,000 (Sixty Thousand US dollars). The Airborne collision Avoidance System (ACAS) helps in preventing mid-air collisions by alerting the pilots as soon as two aircraft come dangerously close to each other. It gives visual and audio warnings, and also advises the crew of the corrective action required to be taken for preventing an impending mid-air collision.

Status of Tata-Singapore Airlines Alliance

2909. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the new aviation policy; and

(b) the position of the proposed Tata-Singapore Airlines alliance under the new avation policy?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) A comprehensive draft National Policy on Civil Aviation is under formulation.